

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 17 December 1954.

SUBJECT **Tank Repair Shop in Neubrandenburg**

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1. The designation Reparaturwerk Neubrandenburg am Tollense-See (Mecklenburg) is a cover name for an enterprise which serves solely for the repair of tanks of the East German military forces. The enterprise employs between 1,500 and 1,800 workers, who work in three shifts. In addition to skilled laborers, soldiers and technical officers of the military forces are employed. Russian advisors are assigned to the enterprise; they wear the uniform of the East German military forces. The enterprise is surrounded by a high wooden fence which prohibits any view of the enterprise from the outside. The head of the enterprise is a German Lt. Col.
2. The tanks repaired are principally of the Soviet T-34 type. Usually each tank receives a general overhaul which represents a value of 500,000 DME. Approximately 30 tanks a month are overhauled. The enterprise is well equipped with tooling machines of the most recent construction. There is no lack of material or modern tools or measuring equipment. The only noticeable lack is that of skilled labor. Laborers change frequently and can be obtained only through labor offices.
3. All employees of the enterprise must be politically reliable and they are severely watched. They must constantly be aware of the possibility of being under surveillance. In connection with the East German governmental elections, of October 1954, Minister of the Interior Willi Stoph went to the enterprise and gave a speech. He was constantly surrounded by several Russians. Young employees and soldiers are often fanatic adherents to Communist goals while the older employees are mostly opponents of the Communists. Among the latter there is discontent caused by what is regarded as the hesitating position of the West.
4. Tank and engineer units are stationed in Neubrandenburg. Most of these troops have new camps and barracks. Soviet tank troops are also stationed in Neubrandenburg.
5. A tank repair enterprise similar to the one at Neubrandenburg is located in Ludwigsfelde-Genshagen, approximately thirty kilometers south of Berlin. This enterprise is a former Daimler factory.

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